

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A powdery, water-soluble, cationic polymer composition ~~that contains~~ comprising:

at least two cationic polymers of different composition in the cationic groups, wherein a first cationic polymer is formed by radical polymerization of ~~its~~ monomer constituents in the presence of a second cationic polymer in an aqueous solution,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~[[ - ]]~~ the polymerization of the first cationic polymer takes place in an aqueous solution of the second cationic polymer according to the method of adiabatic gel polymerization, and ~~[[ - ]]~~ the ratio of the second to the first cationic polymer ~~lies~~ is between 0.01:10 and 1:4.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first cationic polymer has a weight-average molecular weight higher than 1 million.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 1 ~~and 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second cationic polymer has a weight-average molecular weight lower than 1 million.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 1 ~~to 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first cationic polymer is formed using cationic monomers selected from the group of cationized esters and amides of (meth)acrylic acid, in each case containing a quaternized N atom, ~~preferably quaternized dimethylaminopropylacrylamide and quaternized dimethylaminoethyl acrylate.~~

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 1, ~~and 3,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second cationic polymer is formed using cationic monomers  
selected from the group comprising diallyldimethylammonium chloride and the cationized  
esters and amides of (meth)acrylic acid, in each case containing a quaternized N atom,  
preferably quaternized dimethylaminopropylacrylamide, quaternized dimethylaminoethyl  
acrylate and/or diallyldimethylammonium chloride.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 4 ~~and 5,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein copolymerized with further, nonionic water-soluble monomers,  
~~preferably with acrylamide.~~

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 1 ~~to 6,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first cationic polymer is composed of 20 to 90 wt% of  
cationic monomers.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 1 ~~to 7,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second cationic polymer is composed of 70 to 100 wt% of  
cationic monomers.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A composition according to claim 1 ~~to 6,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first cationic polymer has a lower charge density than the  
second cationic polymer.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method for producing polymer compositions of  
claim 1 according to claim 1 to 9, which the method comprising:

providing polymers ~~contain~~ that comprise at least two cationic polymers of different composition in the cationic groups, wherein a first cationic polymer is subjected to radical polymerization by adiabatic gel polymerization of ~~its~~ the monomer constituents in the presence of a second cationic polymer in aqueous solution, and the ratio of the second to the first cationic polymer ~~lies-is~~ between 0.01:10 and 1:4,

~~characterized in that~~

[[~~-~~]] preparing the aqueous solution of cationic monomers and the second cationic polymer is ~~prepared~~ with a concentration of 10 to 60 wt%, wherein the start temperature for the polymerization is adjusted to a range of -10°C to 25°C, and oxygen is purged by an inert gas,

[[~~-~~]] starting the exothermic polymerization reaction of the monomers is ~~started~~ by ~~addition of~~ adding a polymerization initiator, and heating ~~of~~ the polymerization mixture ~~takes place with formation of~~ and forming a polymer gel up to its maximum temperature, and

[[~~-~~]] subjecting the polymer gel to mechanical size reduction and drying the polymer gel after the maximum temperature has been reached, ~~the polymer gel is subjected to mechanical size reduction and to drying.~~

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~A-~~ The method according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the start temperature of polymerization is adjusted to a range of 0°C to 15°C.  
[[~~,~~]]

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~A-~~ The method according to claim 10 ~~and 11~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the concentration of the aqueous solution of monomers and the second cationic polymer is 15 to 50 wt%.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~The method according to claim 10 ~~to 12~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the polymerization initiator comprises a redox system or a  
system that can be activated by UV radiation.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~The method according to claim 10 ~~to 13~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the polymerization is carried out on a polymerization belt.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~The method according to claim 10 ~~to 14~~,  
~~characterized in that~~, wherein after size reduction, the aqueous polymer gel is dried at  
temperatures of 80°C to 120°C to a moisture content of less than or equal to 12.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the polymers according to claim 1 to 9 as  
flocculation auxiliaries~~ A method for promoting flocculation during solid/liquid separation,  
the method comprising:  
adding the polymer composition of claim 1 to a mixture of solids and liquids.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): ~~The use~~method according to claim 16, wherein the  
solid/liquid separation is for purification of wastewaters and for conditioning of potable  
water.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~The use~~method according to claim 16, wherein the  
solid/liquid separation is during paper manufacture.

Claim 19 (New): A composition according to claim 4, wherein the group of cationic monomers includes quaternized dimethylaminopropylacrylamide and quaternized dimethylaminoethyl acrylate.

Claim 20 (New): A composition according to claim 5, wherein the group of cationic monomers includes quaternized dimethylaminopropylacrylamide, quaternized dimethylaminoethyl acrylate and/or diallyldimethylammonium chloride.